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PRESIDENT SANBORN'S LETTER

Determined to be absolutely fair, so far as giving all sides a hearing, the News has published a somewhat voluminous and altogether straightforward letter from President Sanborn of the Agricultural College of Utah, in which that gentleman gives his reasons why the College should not be united to the University of Utah, and why, if anything, the University should be united to the Agricultural College. We hope everybody has read the communication; those who haven't, ought to do so without delay.

The communication seems to look very squarely in the direction of President Kingsbury for a reply and we shall therefore waive for the present any detailed comment of our own. President Sanborn has apparently endeavored to be entirely candid in his argument, which is surely the only proper method of discussing a question in which the general public are so deeply interested. But candor is in some cases so much an affair of the heart that the best of men are liable to deceive themselves in its behalf and be led into the woods. We will be pardoned for noting *en passant* just a point or two in this connection.

The experiences of several colleges are called to testify of the undesirableness of uniting the two branches of higher education in the manner contended for here. We take one case. "Great dissatisfaction," says President Sanborn, "has continued up until today in Minnesota with the union of the two institutions." The *Herald* of this city is our authority for the following letter published in its editorial columns about two weeks ago:

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Oct. 2, 1893.—By all means the work of higher education carried on by a state should be kept in one institution and not divided up into different institutions, duplicating and reduplicating unnecessarily the different chairs. In Minnesota the college of agriculture is in the university, as is the school of mines. We mean to keep them so. The result is most satisfactory.
(Signed) CYRUS NORTHROP,
President Minnesota State University.

There seems to be a slight discrepancy between these two authorities. Perhaps President Sanborn has more recent intelligence than the letter here quoted. Perhaps the *Herald* has been unconsciously libelling President Northrop.

But we pass to a more serious matter. At least one thread of the argument before us (the economic) runs about in this direction: The Agricultural College has added an expense to the Territory by the duplication of studies, because all its teachers have all the students they can take care of, and if the latter were taken to the University the teachers would have to go with them, or others be employed. That seems straight enough, but "The Agricultural College of Utah could absorb the University of Utah at practically no expense to the public, except for its normal department."

If matters here do not seem to be looking about "three ways for Sunday," so to speak, they will at least confirm the position of the News, President Kingsbury, and President Sanborn himself, that true economy and good sense insist on some form of union between the two institutions. Whether in the interest of these purposes the University should be made an attachment of the College, or the latter be joined to the former, this paper has made no recommendation—we have asked for their union without saying which one should move. That feature of the case we care nothing about. It is a matter that can be discussed altogether apart from and subsequent to the determination of the main issue, that the two should be made one. We are accordingly not embarrassed, but on the contrary are rather aided, by President Sanborn's argument, for then if there is no difficulty in making the nearest form of the alliance, which looks something like this:

SYLLOGISM.

Minor: The studies of the University have not been unnecessarily duplicated by the Agricultural College.

Major: The University should be absorbed by the Agricultural College without adding anything to the latter's expenses, except for the normal department.

Conclusion: The Agricultural College is the University and the University is its normal department.

This is a comfortable place to pause.

DO NOT SMOKE.

To preach against vices is often as discouraging as to fight flies and mosquitoes. They will grow and multiply as long as favorable conditions exist. Witness for instance the habit of smoking in general and cigarette smoking in particular. This vice the whole medical profession has almost unanimously denounced as one of the most destructive in its results. The gentlemen of the pulpit have warned against it, and thousands who are victims of the poison have added their testimony to the ruin wrought to their nervous system. But, in spite of all this, smoking is still going on. One can hardly walk down the street a busy day without having to inhale a portion of smoke, blown from the mouth of a smoker. On entering or leaving a street car the perfume is sure to meet one. But this is nothing when compared with the atmosphere that prevails in some homes, where old men and young boys pollute the air for wife and children and unsuspecting visitors, by puffing at old, disgusting pipes or burning the innocent looking cigarette. If it is true that over five hundred millions of these little infernal machines are manufactured in this country alone, an idea may be formed of the hold the vice of smoking has upon our nation.

There are many reasons why a regular crusade should be commenced against the habit. To mention only one, it is injurious to the health. Even if the tobacconist supplied the smoker with pure leaves, the continual inhaling of the smoke is, according to high authority, liable to cause serious functional disturbances, affecting the heart, the brain, the mucous membrane of the mouth and the bronchial surface of the lungs. In the young the habit of smoking causes "impairment of growth, premature manhood and physical degradation," says one physician, after having studied the subject thoroughly. But the fact is that the smoker very seldom gets an unadulterated article. In the larger cities little ragged urchins may be seen scouring the streets and gutters for stumps of cigars and cigarettes. These they carefully gather, be they ever so mud-covered and filthy, and sell them to the manufacturers who work them over and serve them to their millions of customers. The high-toned dude who inhales the smoke of his cigarette little dreams what stuff he is holding between his delicate lips. But worse still: Tobacconists admit that drugs are used in cigarettes to an appalling extent. A deadly poison is extracted from the tonka bean and sold as Havana flavoring, and the wrappers are often made from the filthy paper pieces picked up in the streets, arsenic being used to bleach it. A smoker, who would reflect on this, ought to feel it his duty, if he has any manhood left, to break away from the habit and keep his body clean and pure as it was intended to be when modelled by the great Creator.

MR. ZANE AND JOHN BROWN.

Mr. J. M. Zane delivered an eloquent eulogy at the University last night on Wendell Phillips. If criticism were in order, however, we should say his choice of John Brown for the ideal of so lofty a character as the subject of his discourse was an unhappy selection. To the best of our recollection some good authority has declared that the name of John Brown does not "bring down the house" in these days as it used to do. By the way, we have at hand an old number of the *North American Review*, in which Rev. David Utter of this city relates what he knows of John Brown of Osawatomie. Describing one of Brown's expeditions in Kansas, he says:

"When they camped that night they were near the Pottawatomie creek, and here old John Brown revealed his plans for the 'war.' He asked Townsley to guide them up the creek * * * saying that it was his intention to sweep the creek of all the pro-slavery men living on it. * * * As the early light of that Sunday morning, May 25, 1856, came over that new land, so lately a wilderness, showing here and there at wide intervals a cabin with a little field of plowed ground, it revealed five ghastly corpses lying in the grass. Two widows with their fatherless children were weeping over the dead. They knew then, what the world does not know even yet, that this was the work of John Brown. And the same morning light found the stern commander of the army of seven in camp with his men and prisoners. As he lifted his hands to heaven to ask a blessing on the food, the blood of his victims was seen upon them."

HARRASSING TRAMPS.

It is no wonder that the people of Kansas raise strong objections to the conditions imposed through Governor Lewelling's recent "tramp order." Its effect is to precipitate upon them a horde of idle vagabonds whose impudence as beggars has been augmented by the knowledge of exemption from prosecution. Such a result is of the nature that usually follows hasty and ill-advised action. An extreme position has been assumed from which it is necessary to recede, with the danger that the recession will go too far in the other direction and be an injury in general [illegible] of public charity.

The tramp question is coming to the fore in Salt Lake, though not from the same cause that has given it prominence in the Grasshopper State. Its importance here arises from the visits of the begging fraternity coming at an hour when they cause extreme nervousness, especially to timid housewives. This is immediately after nightfall, when supper is being prepared, and generally before the man of the house has returned home from his daily toil. Perhaps the professional tramp realizes that part of the darkling hour he is less likely to be seen approaching and to have the door closed in his face by a frightened woman who, when he gains ingress to the doorway, does not hesitate to give him a liberal share of food to get rid of him.

"I don't mind giving food to men who are out of work," said a leading banker speaking on the subject today, "for I know it is an awful thing to go hungry. I would rather feed any number of unworthy persons than to turn one deserving man away. But I don't like this way of their coming around after dark. It frightens the women folks too much, and I think some measures should be taken to stop it. The other night I had seven of them successively visit my house, and they cleaned us out of food. But the worst was the nervousness caused to the women folks, who naturally feared that if offense should be given to one of the tramps he would be revenged in some way and be shielded in his work by the darkness."

An East Temple street merchant, in remarks on the same topic, said, "I had an unusual experience with a tramp the other morning. He came into the store and asked if he could clean the windows. I told him there were plenty of us around who had time for that and our other work and to spare. He urged that he needed the work more than others, for he had nothing to eat and wanted to earn some. He was a civil engineer who had got out of money and was trying to make his way back East. But before he took food he wanted to work for it."

These incidents represent the two general classes of tramps and unemployed men. Sometimes the latter may apply at nightfall for a meal when they could not be given work to earn it, but the tramp would never be guilty of insisting on work ahead of food. To avoid the affliction complained of by the first speaker, and which certainly is of a very unpleasant nature even to the most charitably inclined, it probably might be well for the citizens to adopt a rule that no beggar or tramp would be entertained after nightfall. To aid in enforcing this the police should arrest everyone found begging after dark. There could be a provision made by the municipal authorities that men who were unfortunate enough to be out of food and shelter when night came on could apply at the city hall and get into upon the condition that next day they would be allowed to depart upon compensating the city in a proper amount of labor.

Such an order of affairs as this would relieve the begging business of much that is objectionable. An honest, hungry man would feel that he could go in the daytime and see for work and food, with a prospect of securing both, and would not be altogether looked upon as an outlaw. On the other hand the tramp, who would be unwilling to apply at police headquarters and propose to labor for his food, would be very careful in venturing about at night begging lest he should be caught and landed in jail for a number of days.

If the city marshal would issue instructions embodying some such ideas as that suggested in relation to the police department, there is no doubt they would meet the approval of public sentiment. Notices concerning the instructions could be liberally posted about town so that destitute men would learn their import. Families would be thus relieved from unpleasant nocturnal visits, unfortunate and hungry men would know what to do in time of need, and tramps would give the city a wide berth, leaving a better supply of food for more deserving persons. As it is now there is too much harboring of the genus tramp, the idle, work-hating vagabond, at the expense of the citizens.

A noted and unassailable disquisition on metallic values, from the pen of Edison, the inventor, reads: "Gold is only valuable because it is rare. It is not nearly so useful as iron, which is the real precious metal. Aluminum is too soft. It is light, but it lacks strength. The metal of the future is nickel steel, which combines strength with pliability. Gold is not worth as much as iron to mankind, and brass is more than worth its weight in gold."

A [illegible] journal says the greatest coinage in recent years for any one month was executed by the United States mints during November. And yet there does not seem to be a glut of cash.

Boston's [illegible] that her unemployed men number 45,000. Her millionaires are not quite so numerous, but there are enough of them to give each of these 45,000 a competence.

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